

In the Claims

☒ Please amend the claims as follows:

☒ Please cancel claims 1-22.

☒ Please add new claims 23-39.

--23. A device for allowing a user to access messages stored in a plurality of locations using a single interface, comprising:

a radio transceiver to communicate by means of a radio frequency link with at least one remote storage device adapted to store a first plurality of messages;

memory capacity coupled to said transceiver and adapted to store a second plurality of messages;

a processor coupled to said transceiver and said memory capacity, said processor adapted to control operation of said transceiver and said memory capacity; and

an interface coupled to said processor, said interface adapted to be manipulated by said user and adapted to provide signals to said processor for causing said processor to access messages in said memory capacity and in said at least one remote storage device, wherein

said interface is further adapted to control a process that plays said messages stored in said memory capacity upon actuation of said interface by said user, and is further adapted to control a process that automatically plays said messages stored in said at least one remote device whether or not said transceiver is on-line with said at least one remote device, and

said process that plays said messages stored in said at least one remote device automatically accesses and plays said messages when said transceiver is on-line with said at least one remote device, and when not on-line, automatically initiates a session by means of said radio frequency link with said at least one remote device in order to access and play said messages

stored on said at least one remote device.

24. A device for allowing a user to access messages stored in a plurality of locations using a single interface, comprising:

a radio transceiver to communicate by means of a radio frequency link with at least one remote storage device adapted to store a first plurality of messages;

memory capacity coupled to said transceiver and adapted to store a second plurality of messages;

a processor coupled to said transceiver and said memory capacity, said processor adapted to control operation of said transceiver and said memory capacity; and

an interface coupled to said processor, said interface adapted to be manipulated by said user and adapted to provide signals to said processor for causing said processor to access messages in said memory capacity and in said at least one remote storage device, wherein

said interface is further adapted to control a process that allows response to said messages stored in said memory capacity upon actuation of said interface by said user, and

said interface automatically allows the response to occur when said radio transceiver is on-line, and when said transceiver is not on-line, initiates a communications session with said at least one storage device to cause said response to occur.

25. A device for allowing a user to access messages stored in a plurality of locations using a single interface, comprising:

a radio transceiver to communicate by means of a radio frequency link with at least one remote storage device adapted to store a first plurality of messages;

memory capacity coupled to said transceiver and adapted to store a second plurality of messages;

a processor coupled to said transceiver and said memory capacity, said processor adapted to control operation of said transceiver and said memory capacity; and

an interface coupled to said processor, said interface adapted to be manipulated by said

user and adapted to provide signals to said processor for causing said processor to access messages in said memory capacity and in said at least one remote storage device, wherein

said interface is further adapted to control a process that saves said messages in said at least one remote device whether or not said transceiver is on-line with said at least one remote device.

26. In a user voice mail access device comprising a radio transceiver for communicating with at least one remote voice mail storage device, memory capacity for storing messages, a processor for controlling said transceiver and access to said memory capacity, and an interface coupled to said processor adapted to allow the user to control access to messages, a process comprising the steps of:

sensing actuation of said interface by said user; and
responsive to said actuation, accessing at least one voice mail message stored in said memory capacity and automatically accessing at least one voice mail message stored in said at least one remote voice mail storage device, wherein

said step of automatically accessing at least one voice mail message stored in said at least one remote devices comprises the steps of automatically accessing said at least one message when said user device is on-line with said at least one remote device and otherwise automatically initiating a communications session with said at least one remote device and as part of that session accessing said at least one message.

27. A process for accessing messages from a user radio frequency link access device that contains an interface for accessing and managing said voice messages, comprising the steps of:

sensing user input to said interface; and
in response to said user input, accessing voice messages stored in said user device and automatically accessing voice messages, via radio frequency link, stored in at least one remote device, wherein

said step of automatically accessing messages, via radio frequency link, stored in at least

one remote device, comprises the steps of automatically accessing said messages when said user device is on-line with said at least one remote device, and when not, automatically initiating a communications session with said at least one remote device and as part of that session accessing said messages.

28. In a device having a memory for storing messages and information pertaining to messages, a transceiver for communicating with a remote device by means of a radio frequency link, and an interface that allows a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on the selected message, a method comprising the steps of:

- reading from the memory information pertaining to a message selected by the user;
- receiving from the user an input specifying a function to be performed on said selected message;
- analyzing said information pertaining to said selected message to determine whether said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device; and
- performing said function to be performed on said selected message if it is determined that said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device, otherwise performing the steps of:

- determining whether the transceiver is currently online with the remote device;
 - automatically establishing a connection with the remote device if it is determined that the transceiver is not currently online with the remote device; and
 - transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message.

29. In a device having a memory for storing messages and information pertaining to messages, a transceiver for communicating with a remote device by means of a radio frequency link, and an interface that allows a user of the device to select a message and a function to be

performed on the selected message, a method comprising the steps of:

reading from the memory information pertaining to a message selected by the user;
receiving from the user an input specifying a function to be performed on said selected message;
analyzing said information pertaining to said selected message to determine whether said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device; and
performing said function to be performed on said selected message if it is determined that said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device, otherwise performing the steps of:

determining whether the transceiver is currently online with the remote device;
asking the user if a connection should be established with the remote device if it is determined that the transceiver is not currently online with the remote device; and
establishing said connection with the remote device and transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message if the user indicated that said connection with the remote device should be established.

30. A messaging device, comprising:
a radio transceiver for communicating, by means of a radio frequency link, with a remote storage device adapted to store a plurality of messages;
a memory for storing messages;
a user interface for enabling a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on said selected message; and
a processor programmed to perform a procedure in response to said user selecting a message and a function to be performed on said selected message, said procedure comprising the steps of:
determining whether the transceiver is currently online with the remote device;
automatically establishing a connection with the remote device if it is determined that the transceiver is not currently online with the remote device; and

transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message.

31. A messaging device, comprising:

a radio transceiver for communicating, by means of a radio frequency link, with a remote storage device adapted to store a plurality of messages;

a memory for storing messages;

a user interface for enabling a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on said selected message; and

a processor programmed to perform a procedure in response to said user selecting a message and a function to be performed on said selected message, said procedure comprising the steps of:

determining whether the transceiver is currently online with the remote device;

asking the user if a connection should be established with the remote device if it is determined that the transceiver is not currently online with the remote device; and

establishing said connection with the remote device and transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message if the user indicated that said connection with the remote device should be established.

32. A messaging device, comprising:

a radio transceiver for communicating, by means of a radio frequency link, with a remote storage device adapted to store a plurality of messages;

a memory for storing messages;

a user interface for enabling a user to input a command to play a message stored in said memory or said remote storage device; and

a processor programmed to perform a procedure in response to said user inputting said command to play a message, said procedure comprising the steps of:

(a) determining if said message to be played is stored in said memory;

- (b) reading said message from said memory if said message is stored therein;
- (c) automatically establishing a connection with said remote storage device if a connection is not already established and if said message is not stored in said memory;
- (d) receiving said message from said remote storage device by means of said radio transceiver after performing step (c); and
- (e) playing said message for said user.

8,14 33. The messaging device of claim 32, wherein said user interface further enables said user to input a command to pause a message that is currently playing.

8,15 34. The messaging device of claim 33, wherein said processor is further programmed to perform a procedure in response to said user inputting said pause command, said procedure comprising the step of pausing the playing of said message while continuing to receive said message from said remote storage device if said message is playing from said remote storage device.

8,16 35. In a device having a memory for storing messages and information pertaining to messages, a transceiver for communicating with a remote device by means of a radio frequency link, and an interface that allows a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on the selected message, a method comprising the steps of:

- reading from the memory information pertaining to a message selected by the user;
- receiving from the user an input specifying a function to be performed on said selected message;
- analyzing said information pertaining to said selected message to determine whether said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device; and
- performing said function to be performed on said selected message if it is determined that

said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device, otherwise performing the steps of:

determining whether a connection is established between the transceiver and the remote device;

automatically establishing a connection with the remote device if it is determined that a connection is not established between the transceiver and the remote device; and

using said connection to transmit information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message, wherein said information transmitted to said remote device includes an indication of said function.

36. In a device having a memory for storing messages and information pertaining to messages, a transceiver for communicating with a remote device by means of a radio frequency link, and an interface that allows a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on the selected message, a method comprising the steps of:

reading from the memory information pertaining to a message selected by the user;
receiving from the user an input specifying a function to be performed on said selected message;

analyzing said information pertaining to said selected message to determine whether said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device; and

performing said function to be performed on said selected message if it is determined that said function can be performed without communicating with the remote device, otherwise performing the steps of:

determining whether a connection is established between the transceiver and the remote device;

asking the user if a connection should be established with the remote device if it is determined that a connection is not established between the transceiver and the remote device; and

establishing a connection with the remote device if the user indicates that a

connection should be established and transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message, wherein said information transmitted to said remote device includes an indication of said function.

16
37.

A messaging device, comprising:

a radio transceiver for communicating, by means of a radio frequency link, with a remote storage device adapted to store a plurality of messages;

a memory for storing messages;

a user interface for enabling a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on said selected message;

means, responsive to the user selecting a message and a function to be performed on said selected message, for determining whether the transceiver is currently online with the remote device;

means for automatically establishing a connection with the remote device if it is determined that the transceiver is not currently online with the remote device; and

means for transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message.

18
38.

A messaging device, comprising:

a radio transceiver for communicating, by means of a radio frequency link, with a remote storage device adapted to store a plurality of messages;

a memory for storing messages;

a user interface for enabling a user of the device to select a message and a function to be performed on said selected message;

means, responsive to the user selecting a message and a function to be performed on said selected message, for determining whether the transceiver is currently online with the remote device;

means for asking the user if a connection should be established with the remote device if it is determined that the transceiver is not currently online with the remote device; and

means for establishing said connection with the remote device and transmitting information to the remote device so that the remote device can perform said function on said selected message if the user indicated that said connection with the remote device should be established.

29. A messaging device, comprising:

a radio transceiver for communicating, by means of a radio frequency link, with a remote storage device adapted to store a plurality of messages;

a memory for storing messages;

a user interface for enabling a user to input a command to play a message stored in said memory or said remote storage device;

means, responsive to the user inputting said command to play a message, for determining if said message to be played is stored in said memory;

means for reading said message from said memory if said message is stored therein;

means for automatically establishing a connection with said remote storage device if a connection is not already established and if said message is not stored in said memory;

means for receiving said message from said remote storage device by means of said radio transceiver after said means for automatically establishing a connection with said remote storage device establishes a connection with said remote storage device; and

means for playing said message for said user.